prescribe only such books as would improve the morals of the pupils and be suitable to the standard. The Member suggested the following points for the consideration of Government:—

(1) The books written by the members of the Committee should not be admitted for selection during their tenure of office.

(2) The prescribed books should not be annually changed.

(3) The books selected should be the works of authors of repute.

(4) The Text Book Committee should be left under the control of the Deputy Director or some other officer proficient in Malayalam and the number of members on the Committee reduced.

(5) The school books should be printed and published at the Government Press, or the publication and sale of such books should be left to the people of the country and not to foreign companies.

He remarked that the Malayalam text-books compiled by the Book Committee under the presidency of the late Valia Koil Tampuran contained sound moral lessons and were suited to the standard of each class. Those books should be reprinted and introduced into schools.

He next objected to a long period of about seven months being given as school holidays and said that it was not enough to teach boys for only five hours during working days.

Dewan.—I don't think that many will agree with you in the view that more than five hours should be devoted to the teaching of small boys.

The Member then said that some of the teachers lived at a distance of six or seven miles from the school and that the teaching work suffered consequently. He also complained against the practice of teachers collecting money from pupils on occasions such as Onam, Pujavaippu, Vishu, etc., and suggested that the Inspecting officers might be directed to enquire into the matter during their tours of inspection. He also urged the desirability of re-forming the education boards.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

120. Education of the depressed classes.

Mr. R. Easwara Aiyar, B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) said that he included under the nomenclature of depressed classes Pariahs, Pulayas, Pallars and Koravans. According to the latest Census Report, those classes numbered about $3\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs while the educated among them were only 3,000, which would be only about nine in one thousand. Such a state of affairs had been existing for a long time. He appreciated the policy of the Government in starting six separate schools for the depressed classes during 1090. But he considered that such a small number was not enough to meet their requirements. A great deal more would have to be done for them in the near future. In starting separate schools, he hoped that the more fortunately circumstanced among them would co-operate with the Government. It was evident from the representation made by the Pariah representative that they were without sites for habitation. The condition of the depressed classes generally could be improved only if the Government took a more favourable attitude and the Member invited their kind attention to the matter as well as to the education of those classes.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

121. Educational grievances of the Malayala Brahmins.

Mr. Narayanan Tuppan Nambooripad (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) said that the backward condition of the Malayala Brahmins in point of education was well known to the Government. Early steps should therefore be taken to establish special schools in places where the members of the community were living in large numbers. If an enquiry was made into the difficulties that stood in the way of their education through a person who knew their ways of life, the Government would be convinced of their backward condition and immediate steps would be taken for its

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